

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 33 are pending in the subject patent application. Claims 7 and 9 through 32 have been allowed. Claims 1 through 6, 8, and 33 have been rejected.

Discussion of Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 through 6, 8, and 33 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Pat. No. 6,956,369. However, the present application is a continuation-in-part of the '369 patent, and all of the inventors in the parent patent are also listed as inventors in the present application. That is, the present application claims priority from the '369 patent, so, any claim in the present application which addresses subject matter found in the parent patent is entitled to the same priority date as any subject matter found in the parent patent. Therefore, the '369 patent cannot possibly be prior art to the present application. Further, since this priority claim was made upon the filing of the present application, it is clear that it is the position of the Applicants that any unclaimed subject matter found in the parent patent was in fact invented by the inventors of the present application. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully submit that any such invention was not invented "by another".

Discussion of Double Patenting Rejection

Claims 1 through 6, 8, and 33 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness type double patenting. The Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer in behalf of the Assignees, which overcomes the double patenting rejection.

The Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 through 33 are patentable, and that the application is now in a condition for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (360)599-2285 for any reason that would advance the instant application to issue.

Dated this 14th day of June, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR § 1.8

I hereby certify that this Response to Office Action is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on this, the 14th day of June, 2006.



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